

**ARKANSAS PROFESSIONAL BAIL BOND COMPANY AND PROFESSIONAL  
BAIL BONDSMAN LICENSING BOARD**

**May 14, 2004**

Chairman Don Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Don Smith, Frank Sturgeon, Eugene Reynolds, Xollie Duncan, Phyllis Carruth, Marc Oudin and Rex Morris. Also present were Assistant Attorney General, Alice Lightle, Board staff and members of the audience.

Following a review of the Board Minutes for April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004 and the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004 Teleconference Board Meeting, Sturgeon moved to approve. Carruth seconded. The motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**License Approvals:**

Fifteen (15) non-controversial license applications and seven (7) non-controversial tentative License applications were submitted for Board approval. Board Investigator, David Hatfield, advised the Board that applications for Chris Lockhart, Stan Wood and Patsy Musick were on the tentative list pending approval of their respective Company applications. After discussion, Sturgeon moved to approve the license applications as presented, with the exception of Lockhart, Wood, and Musick, which would be taken up subsequent to the Board's actions on the Company applications. Oudin seconded. The motion carried.

**Forfeitures:**

Hatfield presented the Forfeiture Report for the Board's information and requested the Board's approval to suspend those licensees who failed to pay their forfeitures timely. Carruth moved to suspend any licensee whose forfeitures were not timely paid. Sturgeon seconded. The motion carried.

Hatfield presented the Past Due Forfeiture Report. Hatfield advised these forfeitures were either awaiting execution of judgement or on appeal. Chairman Smith called for questions and/or discussion and, hearing none, inquired as to whether there was any further old business. There being none, the Board turned to new business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**April Vouchers Paid:**

Chairman Smith invited questions and/or discussion regarding the vouchers paid in April. There being none, the Board proceeded.

**Quarterly Reports**

The Board was presented with the quarterly reports. Chairman Smith invited questions and/or discussion. There being none, the Board proceeded.

**2005 Budget**

Chairman Smith noted that the Budget had been timely prepared and delivered to the Budget office thanks to the assistance of Budget office personnel and David Hatfield, Board Investigator. Chairman Smith advised there were no major changes from last year's budget. Carruth moved to approve the 2005 Budget as submitted. Duncan seconded. The motion carried.

Hatfield advised the Board of the need to replace the three computers and monitors currently used by the Board staff. He advised that three estimates had been received, that there were sufficient funds in the current budget to purchase the computers, and requested approval to purchase the equipment. After discussion, Sturgeon moved to approve the purchase, but to delay the actual purchase until the new Executive Director was on board. Oudin seconded. The motion carried.

**Will Oliver/Liz Frawley's Bail Bonds:**

Chairman Smith requested an update from Hatfield who advised the parties were present today in response to the Board's request and that Judge Judge Plegge had sent a letter advising of mediation efforts. Chairman Smith then requested an update from the parties.

The parties acknowledged an agreement in principle had been reached and would be committed to writing soon. According to the parties, Ron Oliver would be the owner, was buying the interest of the other two principals, and that the name would remain the same. It was reported that bonds totaling \$7,000,000.00 had been exonerated and that it was anticipated an additional \$10,000,000.00 would be exonerated before the next quarterly report is due.

It was agreed the parties would present the written agreement and a written report detailing the process used to exonerate and bonds exonerated, by the June board meeting.

**A. Jeffries Bonding Company:**

Hatfield advised that a copy of the letter from Ms. Lightle requested by the Board was included and that the FBI check on Ms. Helen Jefferies had been returned with no problems noted. Ms. Jefferies was present and indicated she would be the owner of the company pending entry of a probate order in Mr. Jefferies estate. Ms. Williams, administratrix of the estate advised the order would be entered after the time period for claims against the estate had concluded.

The Board requested copies of such orders upon entry by the Probate Court and advised that an application for licensure of the company pursuant to the new ownership should be submitted at that time.

**Lockhart Bail Bond Company:**

Hatfield advised that Mr. Lockhart was present and had presented a certificate of deposit from Simmons First Bank together with an assignment for the benefit of the Board. Sturgeon moved that the application be approved. Oudin seconded. The motion carried.

Following approval of the company license, Sturgeon moved that Chris Lockhart's bondsman application be approved. Duncan seconded. The motion carried.

**Liz & Stan Bail Bonds, Inc.:**

Mr. Stanley Wood advised that his daughter-in-law was the individual identified as "Liz" in the company name and that she would be involved "somewhat" in the business "later on," in response to inquiry from the Board. Hatfield reported that all paperwork had been received and was in order, including the FBI check and a certificate of deposit from First National Bank of Fort Smith with an assignment for the benefit of the Board. Sturgeon moved that the application be approved. Reynolds seconded. The motion carried.

Following approval of the company license, Sturgeon moved that Stanley Wood's bondsman application be approved. Oudin seconded. The motion carried.

**Musick Bail Bond Company:**

Hatfield reported that all paperwork had been received and was in order, including an irrevocable letter of credit to the Board from Citizens Bank of Batesville. There was discussion regarding the verification of the financial statements and appraisals included therein. Duncan moved that the company application be approved. Sturgeon seconded.

Following approval of the company license, Duncan moved that Pat Musick's bondsman application be approved. Sturgeon seconded. The motion carried.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session. After Executive Session, the Board resumed the meeting and Chairman Smith announced the Board's unanimous decision to hire Tommy Reed as the new Executive Director.

**Public Comments:**

Chairman Smith asked for Public Comments. Tom Nickolich expressed his approval of the Board's decision. There being no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted for approval:

This 11th day of June, 2004 \_\_\_\_\_